Inclusion of more items in PDS list

689. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently decided to include and supply more items in the PDS list;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the expert committee appointed by Government to look into the reasons for poor performance of the cooperatives and to suggest ways to revitalise them has submitted its report to Government ;

(d) if so, the findings of the report; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) No Sir. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, transportation, storage and supply of bulk quantities of six essential commodities namely, Rice, Wheat, Sugar, Soft Coke, Superior Kerosene Oil and imported edible oil. The State Governments and U.T. Administrations are free to add, on their own, other items of mass consumption based on the local needs and preferences.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Public Utilities Regulatory Commission

690. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposed Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC), envisaged as a watchdog body to protect the interests of the consumer has been set up by the Ministries dealing with public utilities like Railways, Communications etc.;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how Government propose to tackle the situation and ensure early constitution of the utilities watchdog commission and enunciate its functions ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The matter regarding setting up of Public Utilities Regulatory Commission is under the consideration of the Government.

मध्य प्रदेश में बेरोजगार युवकों को उचित दर की दुकानों का आवंटन

691. **श्री अजीत जोगी :** क्या **नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार मध्य प्रदेश में बेरोजगार युवकों को निकट भविष्य में सहकारी आधार पर सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अधीन उचित दर की दुकान आवंटित करने का विचार रखती है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) प्रस्तावित योजना को कब से लागू किया जाएगा ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?